



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Patent Application of:

Hiroto Hirakoso

Confirmation No. 9433

Application No.: 09/955,196

Group Art: 2621

Filed: September 19, 2001

Examiner: N/A

For: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND
IMAGE PROCESSING DEVICE

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4-20-04

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

APR 13 2004

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Va 22313-1450

Sir:

The Applicant, through its representatives and attorneys, hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner the two (2) documents identified on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. These documents emanated from the European search report dated March 1, 2004. Copies are provided.

This submission is timely in that it is made prior to the initial Action on the merits of this application. It is also timely in that it is provided within three months from the subject communication in a corresponding foreign application, as noted, and thus certification is appropriate.

For the convenience of the examiner, a copy of the European search report is provided.

This information disclosure statement is filed at this time to place these documents with the Examiner for the initial examination on the merits.

Please take these documents into account in the initial examination along with the background information in the application as filed. An early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 9, 2004

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